The Croase House,

Kingsland,

March 10th, 1915.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I beg to lay before you my report for the year ending December 31st, 1914. The district comprises the town of Leominster and a small portion of surrounding country known as the Outparish. The population at the last census was 5,737, estimated to the middle of 1914, 5,708. The statistics of the Leominster Union show that during the year the total indoor poor equalled 1 in 137 of the population while the outdoor was 1 in 51. The amount of out relief given equalled 1s. 0¾d. per head of the Union population.

Births.—There were 122 births giving an average of 21·3 per thousand inhabitants. There were 12 illegitimate births or 2·1 per thousand of the estimated population.

Deaths.—There were 84 deaths of residents during the year, giving an average of 14·7 per thousand per annum of the estimated population. There were 18 deaths in institutions in the district, Workhouse and Cottage Hospital, 8 belonging to the Rural District. There were 4 uncertified deaths 0·7 per thousand. There were 3 deaths certified by the Coroner.

Infantile Mortality.—There were 14 deaths of children under 1 year, or 114·7 per thousand births. There was 1 death from measles, 1 convulsions, 1 bronchitis, 3 pneumonia, 1 enteritis, 1 syphilis, 1 malformation, 3 premature births, 1 atrophy, and 1 from one of the other diseases not specially named in the tables. There were 2 deaths among illegitimate children.

Infectious Diseases.—During the year there were 7 cases of diphtheria and 12 of scarlatina, one of the latter proving fatal. Everything possible was done in the way of isolation and disinfection. Many cases of scarlatina are so slight that no doctor sees them, and in this way the disease is spread. In the case of diphtheria, free use is made by the medical men of the district of the Public Bacteriologist, swabs being regularly sent to him for confirmation or otherwise of the suspected case.

Phthisis.—There were 4 deaths from this disease and 4 from other tubercular diseases. Of the former 2 were men and 2 women, and of the latter 1 man 1 woman and 2 children, or ·6 per thousand of phthisis proper, and 1·3 per thousand of all forms of this disease.

All cases notified are visited and notes taken and kept in the record book, and whatever can be is done to improve the conditions under which the patient is living. Suitable cases are sent to sanatoriums as fast as vacancies occur, and those living at home are advised to visit the tuberculosis officer at his dispensary, and often other members of the family are also seen by him.

Cancer.—There were 6 deaths from this disease or 1 per thousand.

House Accommodation.—Nine new houses have been erected by private enterprise, but more are needed, and the Council are considering the best means of proceeding in the building of more cottages under the Housing Act. Until new cottages are built, the undesirable ones in existence cannot be closed. During the year 30 houses have been put into proper conditions after notice from your Surveyor. A few cases of overcrowding have been met with which we deal with as best we can until more houses are available.

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS, 1890 TO 1909.

No. of Dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17.	No. considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	No. of representations made to local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders.	No. of Closing Orders made.	No. of Dwelling-houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders.	No. of Dwelling-houses which after the making of Closing Orders were put into a fit state for human habitation.	No. of Demolition Orders made.	No. of Dwelling-houses demolished.	No. of Dwelling-houses made in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation under Sections 14 and 15.	Houses erected or in course of erection on or near site of demolished houses in lieu thereof.	Inhabited houses closed and remaining void or used for other purposes.
None.	None.	None.	None.	30	None.	None.	None.	30	None.	None.

Sewage and Drainage.—The Borough is drained by the town sewers, practically all the houses being connected with them. A very few earth closets are used where it is difficult to connect with the sewers. In the Outparish earth closets and privies are mainly used, a few of the large houses having their own systems. House refuse in the Borough is regularly collected twice a week, and much of it is now burnt at the pumping station. A special report of the sewage disposal was made by me on June 27th, 1912, to which I would beg to refer you for further information.

Water Supply.—The Borough of Leominster possesses one of the finest water supplies in this county. It is ample in quantity and of first rate quality as proved by repeated analysis by first class experts. It is obtained partly from the water works meadows and partly from a large well on the other side of the station after filtering through the gravel bed from the rivers Lugg and Pinsley. It is pumped up to the reservoirs on the high ground above the town and from thence distributed to the whole Borough.

The Outparish is dependent on wells and springs of good quality.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—There are 19 registered, all of which are regularly visited by your Surveyor, and found to be kept in good condition. The Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders are in force in the district, and handbills are given to all persons registered and are also published in the district.

Slaughter Houses.—There are 8 regulated by the Borough byelaws. All are clean and in good order, well drained, and with proper water supply.

Hop Pickers.—There are no byelaws in force in this district, the area being small and the pickers mostly local.

Common Lodging Houses.—None.

Offensive Trades.—Practically nill.

Bakehouses number 15. They are visited regularly and found to be kept clean and in good order.

Schools.—There are three in the Borough, all connected with the town drainage and water supplies, and all in good order. There is also one in the Outparish. This school has a drainage scheme of its own which works well and is satisfactory. All were closed in the early summer on account of measles and were thoroughly disinfected before reopening.

Isolation Hospital.—At Ebnal, in the Outparish, for small pox only.

Acts and Byelaws adopted in the District.—Borough byelaws.

A summary of the works performed by the Borough Surveyor is as under.

1. NOTICES SERVED 15
2. NOTICES COMPLIED WITH 15
3. NOTICES OUTSTANDING ... ... None
4. LETTERS WRITTEN 140
5. COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED 35
6. NUISANCES ABATED 62
7. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN ... ... None

8. Infectious Diseases :—

Enquiries	26
Removals to Hospital	None
Premises disinfected	30
Bedding, Clothing, &c., disinfected ...	5
Schools disinfected	3

9. Houses :—

Inspected	12
Condemned as unfit for habitation ...	None
Made fit for habitation	30
Houses demolished (or partly or entirely)	None
Houses erected	9
Houses cleansed and repaired ...	32
Overcrowding abated	1

10. Water Supply :—

Wells sunk	1
Wells deepened, repaired, or cleansed	4
Wells closed	None
Samples analysed	4
Water certificates granted	None
Connected to main supply	12

11. House Drains :—

Laid, relaid, cleansed, trapped ...	25
Spouting, waste pipes, sinks, &c., rectified	32

12. Water Closets, Urinals, &c. :—

Provided	6
Improved and repaired	38

13. Privies, Ashpits :—

Provided	None
Repaired	None
Converted to w.c.'s	None
Converted to Pail Closets	None

14. Scavenging :—

Privies, Receptacles, &c., cleansed ...	Town refuse collected weekly and bi-weekly
Ashpits, Cesspits, &c., emptied ...	None

15. Slaughter-houses Inspected, &c. ...	8, from time to time
16. Dairies and Cowsheds Inspected, &c.	19, from time to time
17. Lodging-houses inspected, cleansed, &c.	None in existence
18. Workshops and Bakehouses inspected, cleansed, &c.	61
19. Unsound Food seized	4
20. Nuisances from Animals improperly kept and Accumulations of Manure removed	10
21. Miscellaneous Nuisances abated ...	16

JAMES BUDD,

Sanitary Inspector.

Leominster Urban Sanitary District.

The following are the Local Government Board tables :—

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1914 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.				of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.			Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	6218	138	138	22·1	116	18·3	8	2	12	86 6	110	19·2
1910	6283	133	133	21	92	14·6	6	1	13	97·7	86	13·6
1911	5752	152	152	26 2	91	15.8	9	4	11	72·3	86	14·9
1912	5809	123	123	21·1	76	13	10	5	11	89·4	72	12·3
1913	5717	127	127	21·6	56	9·7	7	3	11	88	52	9
1914	5708	122	122	21·3	91	15·9	10	3	14	114·7	84	14·7

Total Population at Census, 1911 ... ... **5,737.**

Total Families or Separate Occupiers ... ... **1,353.**

Area of District in acres (land and land water) ... ... **8,086.**

TABLE II.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1914.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.							
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)...	7	—	2	3	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Scarlet Fever	12	1	3	6	1	—	1	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	23	1	—	5	5	8	3	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis... ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Totals	48	2	5	14	8	9	9	1

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1914.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes { Certified	80	12	3	2	2	2	7	12	40	18
All Causes { Uncertified	4	2							2	
Measles	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	4	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—
Tuberculosis Meningitis	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	1
Organic Heart Disease	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	6
Bronchitis	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of respiratory organs ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth..	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Suicide	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Defined Diseases	15	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	10	4
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1
Totals	84	14	3	2	2	2	7	12	42	18

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Causes of Death.	Under 1 week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	3 to 4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes { Certified.	2	1	—	1	4	1	4	—	3	12
All Causes { Uncertified.	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3
Enteritis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
{ Congenital Malformations...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
{ Premature Birth	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
{ Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals ...	2	1	None	1	4	1	6	None.	3	14

Nett Births in the year { legitimate 110. / illegitimate 12.

Nett Deaths in the year { legitimate 12. / illegitimate 2.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories .. .. (Including Factory Laundries)	15	1	
Workshops .. .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	22	2	
Workplaces .. .. (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	35	1	
Total	72	4	None.

The various factories and workshops in the district, 61 in number, have been regularly visited and found to be kept in good order, 5 defects only being found and all were remedied at the request of your Surveyor.

In conclusion I wish to thank your Inspector, Mr. Budd, for his thorough and efficient work, and the uniform courtesy which I always receive from him, and the able way in which all his work is carried out.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Chairman of the Urban Sanitary Authority, Leominster.

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